



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors

For Immediate Release:

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It's "open hive" time again

Public is invited to a free celebration of National Honey Month with Delaware Beekeepers

The Members of the Delaware Beekeepers Association invite you to attend and participate in an "open hive" demonstration, lectures, and a pot luck luncheon on Saturday, September 12, 2009, at Coleman's Christmas Tree Farm, Rt. 9, Odessa, DE. The event, which celebrates September as National Honey Month, is for anyone interested in bees and beekeeping.

It is a **free** public event. All are welcome to attend. Attendees are asked to bring some food to share with others at lunchtime. There will be free hay wagon rides around Coleman's Christmas Tree Farm for children – a family friendly and memorable experience. **The program follows:**

- 9:00 AM **Registration & Networking** – muffins, donuts, fruit, coffee, tea, juice, etc...
- 9:30 AM **Welcoming Remarks** – Frank Marro, President of the Delaware Beekeepers Association
- 9:45 AM **"Importance of Honeybees to Vegetable Crops in Delaware"** Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture, State of Delaware
- 10:15 AM **"Why Beekeeping is a Great Hobby & How to Get Started"** Bob Bauer & Bill Leitzinger, New Castle County Beekeepers
- 10:45 AM **Break**
- 11:00 AM **"Honey Extracting Demonstration & Honey Taste Testing"** Robert Mitchell, State Apiarist Plant Industries Section, Delaware Department of Agriculture
- 11:30 AM **Pot Luck Luncheon** – Please bring some food to share with others. Drinks provided by the Delaware Beekeepers Association. **Note:** there is no microwave to reheat food.
- 12:30 PM **"Open Hive" Demonstration** – Come look inside and see how a bee hive functions. **A once in a lifetime experience!**

NOTE: *Bee veils will be supplied - beekeepers are advised to bring their own equipment. Water will be available for field sessions.*

For more information or if you plan on attending this event, contact Bill Leitzinger via e-mail at: zinger13@att.net or by phone: (302)584-4631.

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